

REMARKS

The application, prior to this amendment, was indicated as being allowed, and the applicants received a Notice of Allowance.

On reviewing the claims, applicants determined that claim 10 of the original claims was redundant because of claim 5. Consequently, applicants have cancelled claim 10 in this amendment. Claims 17 and 20 required clarification.

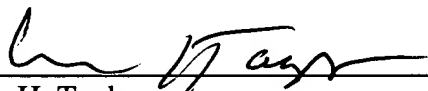
Applicants have also added some additional claims which are narrower than the previous independent claims.

The newly added claim 21, includes the essential limitations of claims 1, 2, 5 and 6. Claims 22 and 23 contain the limitations of the previous claims 8 and 9, respectively. Similarly, claim 24 contains substantially the same limitations as claims 11, 12 and 15. Claims 25, 26 and 27 contain the same limitations as claims 16, 17 and 20, respectively. Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and an early allowance would be appreciated.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Edwin H. Taylor at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 7/6, 2004


Edwin H. Taylor
Reg. No. 25,129

12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300